

Compensation Claims of Repatriates of Kuwait

1275. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that compensation claims of the repatriates of Kuwait from Kerala are delayed;

(b) the number of repatriates from Kuwait whose compensation claims have been admitted by the UNCC;

(c) the number of repatriates from Kerala whose claims have been settled so far;

(d) the number of applications from Kerala stands pending for disposal; and

(e) whether there are any specific plans to avoid delay in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) It is not a fact that compensation claims of repatriates of Kuwait from Kerala are delayed.

(b) The number of Indian repatriates whose claims have been admitted by UNCC is as follows:—

	All India	Claims filed from Kerala
Category "A"	102211	18219
Category "B"	183	62
Category "C"	38901	8325
Category "D"	464	167

[2 August, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) The number of repatriates from Kerala whose claims have been settled till 30.6.2001 is as follows:—

"A"	17822
"B"	61
"C"	7999
"D"	160

(d) Number of approved claims from Kerala pending to be disposed of is:

"A"	397
"B"	1 (claimant not traceable)
"C"	326
"D"	7

(e) The pending claims are due to non-traceability of claimants or death cases where the legal heirs have to obtain legal documents to establish their legal heirship. These are unavoidable delays for which the Bank is not responsible. The Bank, however, advertises the names of the untraceable claimants in India and the Special Kuwait Cell (SKC) does so through the Embassy of India, Kuwait. Wherever and whenever the genuine claimants contact the Bank or SKC, prompt steps are taken to ensure expeditious disbursement of compensation provided the claimants complete formalities quickly. Where the claimant does not fulfill the documentation required by the Bank, delays occur for which neither SKC nor the concerned Bank is responsible. Despite the shortcomings, it is SKC's endeavour to ensure early payment with the least harassment to the claimant.

Relaxation in US Sanction Imposed on India

1276. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that public opinion in the United States of America has strongly advocated for removal of sanctions against India imposed after the Pokharan-II nuclear test;